IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 23 (cancelled)

Claim 24 (currently amended) A method of forming in a mammal a connective tissue capsule for maintaining transplanted allogenic or xenogenic cells comprising ~~forming~~ introducing a polyacrylamide gel ~~capsule in a~~ into a tissue of ~~a~~ the mammal ~~wherein the capsule is adapted for cultivating transplanted alllogenic or xenogenic cells for a period of time~~ so as to cause the connective tissue capsule to form around the polyacrylamide gel.

Claim 25 (previously presented) A method according to claim 24, wherein the mammal is a human.

Claim 26 (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~25~~ 24, wherein the mammal suffers from a pathology and the method comprises ~~cultivating in said polyacrylamide gel capsule~~ introducing into and maintaining in said connective tissue capsule transplanted allogenic or xenogenic cells that aid in treating the pathology.

Claim 27 (previously presented) A method according to claim 26, wherein the pathology is diabetes mellitus.

Claim 28 (currently amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein pancreatic β-

cells are ~~cultivated in said polyacrylamide gel capsule~~ introduced into and maintained in said connective tissue capsule.

Claim 29 (currently amended) A method according to claim 28, wherein the pancreatic β-cells are cells from ~~newborn~~ rabbits or ~~young~~ pigs.

Claim 30 (currently amended) A method according to claim 24, wherein the ~~polyacrylamide gel~~ connective tissue capsule is formed by subcutaneous injection of ~~a~~ the polyacrylamide gel into the mammal.

Claim 31 (currently amended) A method of ~~cultivating~~ introducing allogenic or xenogenic cells into ~~of~~ a mammal, comprising introducing a polyacrylamide gel into a mammal, thereby inducing formation of a connective tissue capsule around said gel, and thereafter, injecting allogenic or xenogenic cells of a mammal into said ~~gel~~ connective tissue capsule.

Claim 32 (previously presented) A method according to claim 31, wherein the gel is introduced by subcutaneous injection.

Claim 33 (currently amended) A method according to claim 31, which comprises preparing a vaccine from ~~formulating a vaccine preparation comprising~~ said ~~cultivated~~ cells.

Claim 34 (previously presented) A method according to claim 31, wherein said allogenic or xenogenic cells are tumor cells.

Claim 35 (previously presented) A method according to claim 31, wherein said allogenic or xenogenic cells are Leydig's cells.

Claim 36 (currently amended) A method of treating a pathology in a mammal, comprising introducing a polyacrylamide gel into a mammal, thereby inducing formation of a connective tissue capsule around said gel; and thereafter transplanting allogenic or xenogenic cells of a mammal into said connective tissue capsule ~~gel~~, said cells being maintained in said capsule and producing a biologically active substance which is released from said capsule for treatment of the pathology.

Claim 37 (previously presented) A method according to claim 36, wherein said pathology is diabetes melitus, said transplanted cells are pancreatic β-cells, and said biologically active substance is insulin.

Claim 38 (currently amended) A method according to claim 37, wherein said β-cells are from ~~newborn~~ rabbits or ~~young~~ pigs.

Claims 39, 40 and 41 (cancelled)

Claim 42 (new). A method according to claim 24, further comprising transplanting

allogenic or xenogenic cells into the connective tissue capsule so as to maintain the cells in the capsule for a period of time.

Claim 43 (new). A method according to claim 42, wherein said period of time exceeds a period that said transplanted cells would persist in the mammal without prior formation of said connective tissue capsule.

Claim 44 (new). A method according to claim 31, wherein said transplanted cells are injected into said capsule such that they persist in the mammal for a period that exceeds a period that said transplanted cells would persist without prior formation of the connective tissue capsule.

Claim 45 (new). A method according to claim 36, wherein said transplanted cells persist in the mammal for a period of time that exceeds a period that said transplanted cells would persist without prior formation of the connective tissue capsule.